CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Chemical Equivalent
Other known title(s):	Chemical Equivilents Revised by Headharvester
OFLC ref:	1800622.044
Medium:	Text File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	Commissioner of Police
Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	18 June 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	18 June 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The text file contains a list of chemicals and ingredients with very little if any practical information. It also contains formulae for the production of different coloured smokes which might have application in film or theatre. Although the and possession or use of smoke bombs is an offense under New Zealand law the likelihood of successfully creating them from the information provided is low. Therefore the publication cannot seriously be considered promotional or encouraging of crime. However, the unrestricted availability of the publication is still likely to be injurious to the public good. Children and young people, who are in the process of developing their cognitive abilities, are at risk of attempting to make the compounds without taking adequate precautions, or fully understanding the consequences of doing so. Adults, on the other hand, are likely to have the maturity and experience to understand the warnings, and appreciate the physical risks and potential legal ramifications of doing so. They are likely to exhibit appropriate caution and take steps to mitigate any potential harm. Therefore, the text file is restricted to those aged 18 and over, as this is a justified limitation on the right to freedom of expression contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 in order to prevent injury to the public good.